

Senator Mae Flexer, Co-Chair
Representative Daniel Fox, Co-Chair
Government Administration and Elections Committee
Support: SB-184, HR-5262

Dear Senator Flexer, Representative Fox and members of the GAE Committee:

I am writing in support of SB-184 and HR-5262, bills that extend the right to vote to all eligible voters.

SB-184 extends the availability of absentee voting due to COVID through the November 2022 election. We cannot predict how Covid will affect us in the coming months and years. We tend to see an uptick in cases in the fall/winter season, which is when we vote. People will have concerns about their own health and that of their community. Also, essential workers may need to work additional hours, so they need the option of absentee voting. We should extend the exception passed for 2020 and 2021 into the fall of 2022.

HR-5262 aligns the statutory language related to absentee voting with the language used in the Constitution, allowing more eligible voters to vote absentee.

I believe these bills will help increase voter turnout and make it easier for all eligible voters to exercise their right to vote. I urge adoption of these bills.

Sincerely yours,

Emily Hofstatter
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